

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-6 (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) A tool replacement method, comprising:
positioning a spindle relative to a nut ~~loosening~~driving station wherein the nut driving station comprises a forward nut driver and a reverse nut driver;
positioning a receiving hole of a tool holding jig substantially in alignment with a tool associated with the spindle;
engaging the nut with the reverse nut driver;
rotating the nut relative to the spindle to loosen a chuck of the spindle;
transferring the tool holding jig from the spindle to a tool post;
positioning the spindle relative to a nut ~~tightening station~~ forward driver;
positioning a replacement tool substantially within the chuck of the spindle; and
rotating the nut relative to the spindle to tighten the chuck of the spindle.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the positioning of the replacement tool includes:

locating the replacement tool in a tool station; and receiving the replacement tool in a second receiving hole of the tool holding jig.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, further including locking the spindle during the rotation of the nut.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the locking includes engaging a brake to a rotary flange associated with the spindle.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, further including:
arranging a plurality of replacement tools, each replacement tool occupying a single receiving hole of the tool holding jig; and
providing at least one receiving hole to accommodate the tool associated with the spindle.

Claims 12-20 (Cancelled).

21. (New) A tool replacement method, comprising:
positioning a spindle relative to a nut driving station wherein the nut driving station wherein the nut driving station comprises a forward nut driver and a reverse nut driver and a reverse nut driver, each of the forward nut driver and the reverse nut driver

having a respective forward-rotating or reverse-rotating nut driver and a unidirectional spindle rotation preventor axially aligned with each other;

positioning a receiving hole of a tool holding jig substantially in alignment with a tool associated with the spindle;

engaging the spindle and the nut with the unidirectional spindle rotation preventor and the reverse-rotating nut driver respectively;

rotating the nut relative to the spindle to loosen a chuck of the spindle;

transferring the tool holding jig from the spindle to a tool post;

engaging the spindle and the nut with the spindle rotation preventor and with the forward-rotating nut driver respectively;

positioning a replacement tool substantially within the chuck of the spindle; and rotating the nut relative to the spindle to tighten the chuck of the spindle.

22. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the positioning of the replacement tool includes:

locating the replacement tool in a tool station; and receiving the replacement tool in a second receiving hole of the tool holding jig.

23. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein engaging the spindle includes locking the spindle during the rotation of the nut.